

September 2020

Newsletter

Malanda Bridge Club

Our unusual year continues, but for us players on the Tablelands things are going well. Online bridge is also becoming more popular, and a couple of intrepid players have tried playing with a robot as their partner. The following is a report from Debbie.

The Cairns Bridge Club has started up a new challenge for those of you who want to try something a bit different, called the Robo Challenge.

It's played on Monday afternoons, with the log in as normal but you also then select, "play with a robot" and pay an extra 25 cents.

In the Robo Challenge everyone plays with a robot at the same level resulting in a playing field that is more even than with all human partnerships. Additionally you can get a measure your own ability because you have to stand on your own skills and can't blame a partner for any shortcomings.

So now you can do those amazing bids that you always wanted to try, without worrying about upsetting your partner.

Not wanting to take away players from our Monday Club game, but I think it would be good fun to try even just once, especially when you are housebound or can't get out to play at our wonderful home club.

Having had quite a lot of experience playing online with and against robots all I can say is like any game format, to do well with your partner you need to understand their bidding system and styles of play.

If you enjoy words of encouragement like well done partner or well played partner, a human is the best way to go.

Alternatively if you like to try some new conventions and are afraid of letting your partner down, well then the strong silent type, like a robot might be something to try for a change. The robots play Two Over One and If you are unsure what they are doing you tap on the bid and it will be explained to you. This will broaden your skills and provide new challenges.

Remember it's only a game of cards and the first priority is to always have fun.

Hope to see some more of you online soon.

Deb

“Marriage is like a card game.

At the start all you need is two Hearts and a Diamond.

At the end you wish you had a large Club and a big Spade.” (Debbie)

A Red Point Event was conducted over the last two Mondays, with thirteen pairs competing. It was won by Sue Hosie and Bjorg Risla, with 60.79%. Well done. I understand that some of the boards were very difficult.

